Please cancel claims 47, 57-62, 65, 79, 81 and 87-88 and amend the remaining claims as follows.

1. – 44. (Canceled)

45. (Amended) A method of loading data into a database system, comprising:

receiving an insert request to insert data into a table in a database system, where the insert request includes one or more links, and each link indicates a server connection and a storage location for data corresponding to the link;

creating a table entry in the database system;

opening the corresponding server connection for each received link;

requesting the data corresponding to each received link through the corresponding opened server connection;

receiving the requested data for each received link through the corresponding server connection; and

storing the received data in the table entry;

where at least two insert requests are processed in parallel.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, comprising:

selecting a data storage facility within the database system to store the data indicated by the insert request; and

passing the insert request to a database worker task within a processing module associated with the selected data storage facility.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, where the table entry includes a field of a user defined type and the received data is stored in a user defined type object representing the user defined type field.

49.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, where at least one link is a URL.

50.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, where at least one link is an ODBC DSN.

51.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, where the insert request includes a link string indicating the one or more links.

52.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 51, further comprising parsing the link string to derive each of the links.

53.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, where opening the corresponding server connection includes opening a connection across the Internet.

54.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising storing at least some of the received data in a large object database related to the database system.

55.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising passing the received links to a link constructor.

56.  (Previously presented) The method of claim 55, where the link constructor creates the table entry, opens appropriate server connections, requests and receives data through opened server connections, and stores the received data in the created table entry.

57.  (Canceled)
58.  (Canceled)
59.  (Canceled)
60.  (Canceled)
61.  (Canceled)
62.  (Canceled)

63. (Amended) A computer program, stored on a <u>computer-readable</u> ~~tangible~~ storage medium, for use in loading data into a database system, the program comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to:

receive an insert request to insert data into a table in a database system, where the insert request includes one or more links, and each link indicates a server connection and a storage location for data corresponding to the link;

create a table entry in the database system;

open the corresponding server connection for each received link;

request the data corresponding to each received link through the corresponding opened server connection;

receive the requested data for each received link through the corresponding server connection; and

store the received data in the table entry;

<u>where at least two insert requests are processed in parallel</u>.

64. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, further comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to:

select a data storage facility within the database system to store the data indicated by the insert request; and

pass the insert request to a database worker task within a processing module associated with the selected data storage facility.

65. (Canceled)

66. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, where the table entry includes a field of a user defined type and the received data is stored in a user defined type object representing the user defined type field.

67. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, where at least one link is a URL.

68. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, where at least one link is an ODBC DSN.

69. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, where the insert request includes a link string indicating the one or more links.

70. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 69, further comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to parse the link string to derive each of the links.

71. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, where opening the corresponding server connection includes opening a connection across the Internet.

72. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, further comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to store at least some of the received data in a large object database related to the database system.

73. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 63, further comprising executable instructions that cause a computer to pass the received links to a link constructor.

74. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 73, where the link constructor creates the table entry, opens appropriate server connections, requests and receives data through opened server connections, and stores the received data in the created table entry.

75. (Amended) A database system, comprising:
one or more data storage facilities for use in storing data composing records in tables of a database;
one or more processing modules configured to manage the data stored in the data-storage facilities; and

a database management component configured to load data into the data storage facilities after receiving one or more links in a request from a client system, where each link indicates a server connection and a storage location for the data to be loaded;

where at least one processing module includes executable instructions providing a database worker task configured to:

create a table entry in a data storage facility corresponding to the processing module including the database worker task;

open the corresponding server connection for each received link;

request the data corresponding to each received link through the corresponding opened server connection;

receive the requested data for each received link through the corresponding server connection; and

store the received data in the table entry; and

where the database management component is further configured to process at least two client requests including link strings in parallel.


76. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where the request is an insert request.


77. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where the request is an update request.


78. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where the one or more data storage facilities store one or more objects of a user defined type for storing data loaded using links received in client requests.


79. (Canceled)

80. (Amended) The database system of claim _75_ ~~79~~, where the database management component is further configured to:

select a data storage facility within the database system to store the data indicated by the client request; and

pass the client request to the database worker task within a processing module associated with the selected data storage facility.

81. (Canceled)

82. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where at least one link is a URL.

83. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where at least one link is an ODBC DSN.

84. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where at least one link indicates a server connection accessible to the database management component through the Internet.

85. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, further comprising a large object database connected to the database management component.

86. (Previously presented) The database system of claim 75, where the database management component is further configured to store the received links and provide the stored links upon request.

87. (Canceled)
88: (Canceled)